Hattie Thomas/R7/USEPA/US

To cc

01/25/2013 04:02 PM

bcc Karl Brooks

Subject OPA Daily Digest for 1/25/13

# **OPA Daily Digest for 1/25/13**

# **Congressional Inquiries:**

**Rep. William Lacy Clay (Mo.)** – Phone inquiry – 1/2313: Requests report-out on the West Lake Landfill public meeting held on 1/17. Due: 1/25/12. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

**Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (Mo.)** – Letter – 1/813: Constituent concern about a Superfund Information Request regarding Fronabarger Concreters, Inc., in Cape Girardeau. Due: 1/23/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

# **State Government Inquiries:**

**Rep. Bill Otto (Mo)**: Email - 1/24/13: - Questions following the Westlake meeting. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

# **Local Elected Official Inquiries:**

None

# **Press Inquiries:**

**Inside EPA** - Dave Reynolds - 1/25/13: Additional questions about public comments for the West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis** - Leisa Zigman - 1/23/13: Questions about EPA's costs at the West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

**KWCH Channel 12, Wichita -** Robert Marin, Kim Hynes - 1/24/13: Questions about EPA involvement in possible law enforcement activity at recycling center on Industrial Road in El Dorado, Kan. Referred to Mike Burnett with EPA Criminal Investigation Division. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394; Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Wallaces Farmer - Lori Morgan-Leonard - 1/24/13: Questions about EPA Region 7's flyover inspection activity involving Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations in Iowa. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

**Southeast Missourian** - Shay Alderman -1/24/13: Questions regarding St. Johns Bayou. Contact: Rich Hood, 7433 (closed)

### **Environmental Stories:**

**Southeast Missourian (Cape Girardeau) - Project to close gap in levee stalled amid bureaucracy** - 1/25/13 - Despite pressure by lawmakers and local stakeholders to resume reviewing plans to close a gap in the Mississippi River levee, federal agencies are not ready to move forward. They cite the need for further coordination and study. http://www.semissourian.com/story/1934782.html

St. Louis Beacon - McCaskill seeks action on delayed St. John's Bayou project in Bootheel -

1/25/13 - Calling years of delays "unacceptable," U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., is seeking federal action on the St. John's Bayou-New Madrid Floodway project, which would plug a 1,500-foot-wide gap in the Mississippi River's levee system.

https://www.stlbeacon.org/#!/content/28628/mccaskill\_st.\_johns\_levee

Kansas City Star - Appeals court rejects EPA bid on pollution case – 1/24/13 - A federal appeals court will not reconsider a decision blocking an Obama administration effort to tighten restrictions on power plant pollution. http://www.kansascity.com/2013/01/24/4029967/appeals-court-rejects-epa-bid.html

The Independent (U.K.) - Exclusive: Billionaires secretly fund attacks on climate science - 1/24/13 - A secretive funding organization in the United States that guarantees anonymity for its billionaire donors has emerged as a major operator in the climate "counter movement" to undermine the science of global warming.

http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/exclusive-billionaires-secretly-fund-attacks-on-climate-science-8466312.html

The Independent (U.K.) - How the 'Kochtopus' stifled green debate - 1/24/13 - Charles and David Koch brothers share a similar political outlook. They are right-wing libertarians who believe in minimal regulation of industry, smaller government, lower corporate taxes and less generous social services. They are also closet "sceptics" when it comes to climate science.

http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/how-the-kochtopus-stifled-green-debate-8466 316.html

**St. Joseph News Press - Questions arise on new solar code** - 1/25/13 - The Planning Commission discussed a code that would regulate solar panels in St. Joseph — something that has never officially been on the books. City staff began analyzing the city's Zoning Regulations last year after it qualified for a technical assistance grant from EPA.

http://www.newspressnow.com/news/local\_news/article\_bf953f3c-7e99-55b7-a879-553ce2ebbdc2.html

Associated Press - Northeast Nebraska board imposes new irrigation rules - 1/25/13 - Some northeast Nebraska farmers are facing new irrigation rules. The rules were adopted Thursday night by the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Board at its meeting in Norfolk. <a href="http://www.omaha.com/article/20130125/NEWS/130129809/1707">http://www.omaha.com/article/20130125/NEWS/130129809/1707</a>

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Drought prompts Missouri ethanol plant to suspend production -** 1/25/13 - Poet Biorefining says its temporarily suspending operations at its Macon ethanol plant next week because the drought left it unable to source enough local corn.

http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/drought-prompts-missouri-ethanol-plant-to-suspend-prodution/article b19e8fe7-f0c5-5958-ade7-9a37a15618f1.html

The Garden City Telegram - Infinity Wind acquires area energy projects - 1/24/13 - California-based Infinity Wind Power on Wednesday announced the acquisition of several wind projects in western Kansas. Earlier this month, Infinity finalized the purchase of the Pioneer Wind Project in Ford County from Clipper Windpower Development.

http://www.gctelegram.com/news/Wind-power-acquisition-01-24-13 also Kansas City Star, Wichita Business Journal

**Des Moines Register - Urbandale: New water source will protect its future** - 1/24/13 - Urbandale's record use of 1.6 billion gallons of water last year, combined with previous double-digit rate increases by Des Moines Water Works, has pushed the Urbandale water board of trustees to find an independent source of water. <a href="http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130125/NEWS10/301250055/1001/">http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130125/NEWS10/301250055/1001/</a>

Kansas City Star - Toyota, BMW working on new battery technology - 1/24/13 - Toyota Motor Corp. and BMW Group are working together on next-generation batteries for green vehicles called "lithium-air" as their collaboration, first announced in late 2011, moves ahead in fuel cells, sports vehicles and other

fields. http://www.kansascity.com/2013/01/24/4028515/toyota-bmw-working-on-new-battery.html

Associated Press - South Dakota Supreme Court upholds permit for \$10 billion oil refinery - 1/25/13 - The South Dakota Supreme Court on Thursday upheld the approval of an air quality permit that would allow a Texas company to begin constructing a proposed \$10 billion oil refinery. http://www.omaha.com/article/20130125/MONEY/701259960

Associated Press - 53 senators urge approval of Keystone XL pipeline - 1/25/13 - More than half the Senate on Wednesday urged quick approval of the Keystone XL oil pipeline, ramping up pressure on President Barack Obama to move ahead with the project just days after he promised in his inaugural address to respond vigorously to the threat of climate change. http://www.sfgate.com/news/texas/article/53-senators-urge-approval-of-Keystone-XL-pipeline-4215772.p

Parsons Sun (Kan.) - Commission to act on EPA compliance contract - 1/19/13 - Parsons city commissioners will consider an amendment to a contract with an engineering firm for a long-term wastewater system project on Tuesday. <a href="http://tinyurl.com/ParsonsWaterTreatment1">http://tinyurl.com/ParsonsWaterTreatment1</a>

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Parsons Sun (Kan.) - Another amendment may be needed soon on EPA contract - 1/23/13 - Parsons city commissioners approved an amendment on a contract with an engineering firm during their Tuesday meeting, and another amendment could be coming soon. http://tinyurl.com/ParsonsWaterTreatment2

Environment News Service - Congressional Democrats Form Climate Change Task Force - 1/24/13 - Climate change is getting renewed attention in Congress. Representative Henry Waxman of California and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island, both Democrats, today announced the formation of a Task Force on Climate Change that will be active in both the House and the Senate. http://ens-newswire.com/2013/01/24/congressional-democrats-form-climate-change-task-force/

**Agency France Press - Pesticides killing amphibians, says study** - 1/24/13 - A plunge in the world's population of frogs and toads may be blamed, at least in part, on farm pesticides, researchers in Germany said on Thursday.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jJ1SNsZY7q2kCW60le5aOLk5-mmw

**Stateline (Pew Center) - Hard Realities on the Environmental Disaster Front** - 1/25/13 - Hot, bone-dry and unrelenting — such were the conditions across Kansas for much of 2012. Kansans have rarely seen anything worse. That is a powerful notion in a state that was buried under the Dust Bowl eight decades ago and suffered epic droughts in the 1950s and 1980s. Prospects for the near future don't look much better, and state officials are well aware of the reality.

http://www.pewstates.org/projects/stateline/headlines/hard-realities-on-the-environmental-disaster-front-8 5899445462

Media Matters (blog) - After Failed Climate Coverage, CNN Reports Americans Don't Understand Climate Change - 1/22/13 - CNN is treating climate change as a matter of opinion, saying Americans are divided over whether or not it is real. But the network itself has fueled such confusion, often failing to report that manmade emissions are driving climate change or giving credence to those who deny the science behind it.

http://mediamatters.org/blog/2013/01/22/after-failed-climate-coverage-cnn-reports-ameri/192345

Greenwire - Officials from 17 states launch splinter group of regulatory agencies - 1/23/13 - Representatives from 17 states today joined an alternative association for local and state air pollution control agencies, called the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies, or AAPCA. http://www.eenews.net/public/Greenwire/2013/01/23/2

**Salon (blog) - Even the Sierra Club gets disobedient over Keystone XL** - 1/23/13 - The Sierra Club is the conservative, curmudgeonly grandfather of environmentalist groups. But the nonprofit has moved to

break its historic ban on civil disobedience over the Keystone XL pipeline as President Obama stalls his decision on whether to approve the TransCanada project.

http://www.salon.com/2013/01/23/even\_the\_sierra\_club\_gets\_disobedient\_over\_keystone\_xl/

**Reuters - Analysis: Obama's next climate steps apt to be temperate -** 1/24/13 - The Obama administration is likely to rely mostly on existing rules and on flexing executive power to execute its second-term environmental agenda, sidestepping Congress as it sets about radically reducing greenhouse gases generated by major polluters.

http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/01/23/us-climate-change-obama-idUKBRE90M05520130123

Christian Science Monitor - Why secretary of State permits pipelines – and other anachronisms - 1/245/13 - A patchwork of federal agencies oversees permits for various energy projects: from LNG exports to cross-state pipelines. Keystone XL pipeline decision hinges on the Secretary of State, which has little experience with business permits.

http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/2013/0125/Why-secretary-of-State-permits-pipelines-and-other-anachronisms

Environmental Health News - California intends to declare BPA a reproductive hazard - 1/25/13 - California today announced its intent to declare bisphenol A a reproductive hazard. Under a state law known as Prop. 65, items that contain a certain level of BPA would need warning signs for consumers. <a href="http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2013/california-bpa">http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2013/california-bpa</a>

Chemical & Engineering News - Stinging Attack On Bee Study - 1/25/13 - The agrochemical companies Syngenta and Bayer are attacking a study by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) that investigated the cause of bee population decline in Europe. <a href="http://cen.acs.org/articles/91/i4/Stinging-Attack-Bee-Study.html">http://cen.acs.org/articles/91/i4/Stinging-Attack-Bee-Study.html</a>

**Greenwire - Enviros sue over EPA temporary guidance on cross-state rule** - 1/24/13 - Environmental groups have filed a federal lawsuit challenging U.S. EPA guidance provided to states to address air pollution that drifts across state lines, arguing that the agency is choosing to rely on an outdated and unlawful program. <a href="http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/01/24/2">http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/01/24/2</a>

Greenwire - House Republicans threaten 'formal action' against Jackson over email alias - 1/24/13 - If Republicans on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee have anything to say about it, outgoing U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson isn't going to get out of town without explaining her "Richard Windsor" email alias. http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/01/24/3

Environmental Defense Fund (release) - Millions of Americans left unprotected from smokestack pollution after court ruling – 1/24/13 - States and cities can -- and should -- petition EPA to stop dangerous emissions. Today, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit denied petitions for rehearing en banc of the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule.

http://www.edf.org/news/millions-americans-left-unprotected-smokestack-pollution-after-court-ruling

**E&E News PM - Kerry fields questions about warming, Keystone XL in confirmation hearing -** 1/24/13 - The Keystone XL pipeline and climate change were both on the agenda today at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's hearing on the nomination of its chairman, Sen. John Kerry, for secretary of State. http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/rss/2013/01/24/1

Yale Environment360 - To Tackle Runoff, Cities Turn to Green Initiatives - 1/24/13 - Urban stormwater runoff is a serious problem, overloading sewage treatment plants and polluting waterways. Now, various U.S. cities are creating innovative green infrastructure — such as rain gardens and roadside plantings — that mimics the way nature collects and cleanses water. http://e360.yale.edu/feature/to\_tackle\_runoff\_cities\_turn\_to\_green\_initiatives/2613/

Charleston Gazette, W.Va. - GAO: Pipeline response reforms needed – 1/23/13 - The nation's pipeline operators and the regulators who police them could take steps to improve emergency response

to incidents, the U.S. Government Accountability Office said Wednesday. http://wvgazette.com/News/201301230027

**Greenwire - Questions trail court order on cross-state rule** - 1/25/13 - A federal court's refusal to reconsider its decision that tossed out a U.S. EPA program for air pollution that drifts across state lines has regulators and advocates for industry and environmental groups scratching their heads. http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/01/25/1

**Greenwire - Court faults EPA over cellulosic standards** - 1/25/13 - The three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit held that EPA's methodology in calculating how much cellulosic biofuel could be produced in 2012 was not accurate enough. http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/rss/2013/01/25/2

New York Times (blog) - The Conundrum of Food Waste - 1/25/13 - Each year, 1.3 billion tons of food — about one third of all the food produced globally — ends up wasted even as hundreds of millions of people go hungry. This week, two United Nations agencies opened a global campaign to address that conundrum, calling for changes in the way that food is harvested, transported, processed, sold and consumed. <a href="http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/01/25/the-conundrum-of-food-waste/">http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/01/25/the-conundrum-of-food-waste/</a>

**Domestic Fuel - Study Looks at Environmental Benefits of Ethanol** - 1/24/13 - According to a new study performed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, corn grown using no-till methods may sequester larger amounts of carbon than previously believed.

http://domesticfuel.com/2013/01/24/study-looks-at-environmental-benefits-of-ethanol/

**GigaCom - 6 technologies that could shape the future of energy** - 1/25/13 - The future of energy technology can come from surprising places: algae, hot rocks, fireflies and crowdfunding? Here's a round up of stories this month that show off 6 technologies that could shape the future of energy. http://gigaom.com/2013/01/25/6-technologies-that-could-shape-the-future-of-energy/

**House Energy & Commerce Committee (release) -** SAY WHAT??? After 1,589 Days, White House Urges Patience on Keystone Pipeline? - 1/24/13 - TransCanada first submitted an application to to construct the Keystone XL pipeline in September 2008. But today White House press secretary Jay Carney said the administration will not be pushed into making a hasty decision on whether to approve the Keystone XL pipeline.

http://energycommerce.house.gov/icymi/say-what-after-1589-days-white-house-urges-patience-keystone-pipeline

Hot Air (blog) - One step forward, two steps back on EPA overreach - 1/25/13 - he Supreme Court refused on Tuesday to consider reducing the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to set air quality standards. It's a couple days old, and you need only check the glee at enviro-blogs and Kos to see how unfortunate it is for those of us who like freedom, a thriving economy, and the prosperity they provide. <a href="http://hotair.com/archives/2013/01/25/one-step-forward-two-steps-back-on-epa-overreach/">http://hotair.com/archives/2013/01/25/one-step-forward-two-steps-back-on-epa-overreach/</a>

Washington Post (blog) - 10 questions and answers on budgetary threats to federal employees - 1/23/13 - Federal employees are facing a triple threat of their own: from the government hitting its debt ceiling, from Capitol Fall pending "sequestration" automatic cuts in budgets, and from a potential lapse in agency spending authority.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/01/23/10-questions-and-answers-on-budgetary-threats-to-federal-employees/?wprss=federal-eye

**Washington Post (blog) - House approves bill to suspend debt limit until May** - 1/23/13 - The House on Wednesday approved a bill to ignore the debt ceiling and allow the government to borrow as needed to meet its obligations through May 18.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/01/23/house-approves-bill-to-suspend-debt-limit-until-may/

**Domestic Fuel - Ethanol By-Product Officially Non-Hazardous** - 1/23/13 - The ethanol by-product and livestock feed known as distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) is now officially recognized as a non-hazardous cargo by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). http://domesticfuel.com/2013/01/23/ethanol-by-product-officially-non-hazardous/

- **BNA Bill Would Require GSA to Conduct Energy Efficiency Audits of Buildings** 1/25/13 The General Services Administration would be required to conduct energy audits of buildings owned by the agency to improve energy efficiency, under legislation introduced by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.). http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29304234&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d 6d7d9h5&split=0
- BNA Pipeline Groups Say PHMSA Studies Flawed on Leak Detection, Control Valves 1/25/13 A pair of trade associations representing the liquid pipeline industry raised concerns Jan. 18 that recently completed technical studies on leak-detection systems and safety valves contain significant flaws. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187100&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d 6b6c2a7&split=0
- **BNA Settlements Help Ensure Pollution Controls Applied to 90 Percent of Refining Capacity -** 1/25/13 The government has secured settlements, including several in fiscal year 2012, to ensure air pollution controls are applied to 90 percent of the country's petroleum refining capacity, the Justice Department said Jan. 18.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187107&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d 6b6e0k7&split=0

**BNA - Federal Policies on Biodiesel Said to Place Oleochemicals at Competitive Disadvantage** - 1/25/13 - Cleaning product manufacturers say federal tax incentives and a "guaranteed market" have given biobased diesel manufacturers a competitive advantage over producers of soap and other goods made with oleochemicals.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187090&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d 6b2p9r7&split=0

**BNA - EPA Drops Plan for Direct Final Rule For 2013 Renewable Fuel Standard** - 1/25/13 - EPA will likely issue the renewable fuel standard volume requirements for 2013 as a proposed rule rather than a direct final rule

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187101&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d 6b6c5p5&split=0

**BNA - 10 Governors, Canadian Politician Urge Obama to Approve Keystone Pipeline** - 1/25/13 - Ten Republican governors and the premier of Saskatchewan urged President Obama in a letter to "act swiftly" to approve the Keystone XL pipeline.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187110&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d 6b6k6d8&split=0

BNA - EPA Says Infrastructure Needs Survey, Improved Database Are Priorities for 2013 - 1/25/13 - The drinking water priorities of EPA in 2013 include publication of the fifth Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and the first phase in developing a new database for water quality information. <a href="http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187088&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d6b1w2n9&split=0">http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\_display.adp?fedfid=29187088&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d6b1w2n9&split=0</a>

**Inside EPA - More Calls For Administrative Climate Action -** 1/24/13 - Congressional Democrats and President Obama's former regulatory review chief are joining the call for administrative action to target climate change in lieu of new legislation.

http://insideepa.com/201301242422483/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/more-calls-for-administrative-climate-action/menu-id-97.html

Inside EPA - Exclusive Interview With EPA Air & Radiation Office Chief Gina McCarthy - 1/24/13 - Inside EPA recently interviewed Gina McCarthy, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. Below is the question and answer transcript of the Jan. 18 interview, held at EPA's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

http://insideepa.com/201301242422436/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/exclusive-question-a-answer-interview-with-epa-air-chief-gina-mccarthy/menu-id-95.html

Inside EPA - McCarthy Downplays EPA Role For GHG NSPS At Existing Power Plants - 1/24/13 - EPA air chief Gina McCarthy is downplaying the agency's role in setting greenhouse gas (GHG) new source performance standards (NSPS) for existing power plants in deference to states' leadership on establishing such standards.

http://insideepa.com/201301242422437/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/mccarthy-downplays-epa-role-for-ghq-nsps-at-existing-power-plants/menu-id-95.html

Inside EPA - EPA Union Claims Agency Holding Back Funds For Sequestration 'Buffer' - 1/24/13 - EPA union officials claim the agency is withholding up to 15 percent of its existing funding to use as a "buffer" against millions of dollars in looming sequestration budget cuts set to take effect in March. <a href="http://insideepa.com/201301242422375/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-union-claims-agency-holding-back-funds-for-sequestration-buffer/menu-id-95.html">http://insideepa.com/201301242422375/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-union-claims-agency-holding-back-funds-for-sequestration-buffer/menu-id-95.html</a>

Inside EPA - EPA Touts Statutory Authority, Court Rulings To Fight Utility MACT Suits - 1/24/13 - EPA is fighting what it calls "scattershot" legal arguments by states, the power industry and others challenging its utility air toxics rule by citing its Clean Air Act authority and recent appellate court rulings. <a href="http://insideepa.com/201301242422374/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-touts-statutory-authority-court-rulings-to-fight-utility-mact-suits/menu-id-95.html">http://insideepa.com/201301242422374/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-touts-statutory-authority-court-rulings-to-fight-utility-mact-suits/menu-id-95.html</a>

**Inside EPA - Most Senators Back Keystone -** 1/24/13 - A majority of the Senate is calling for President Obama to approve the revised plan for the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. <a href="http://insideepa.com/201301242422352/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/most-senators-back-keystone/menu-id-97.html">http://insideepa.com/201301242422352/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/most-senators-back-keystone/menu-id-97.html</a>

Inside EPA - EPA Voluntary Program To Reduce PM Leaves Key Questions Unanswered - 1/24/13 - EPA has formally launched a program encouraging states to make early cuts in particulate matter (PM) levels to potentially win credit for those reductions in plans for meeting the agency's PM standards. <a href="http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/epa-voluntary-program-to-reduce-pm-leaves-key-questions-unanswered/menu-id-67.html">http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/epa-voluntary-program-to-reduce-pm-leaves-key-questions-unanswered/menu-id-67.html</a>

**Inside EPA - IG Launches Evaluation Of EPA's Controversial Enforcement 'Watch List' -** 1/24/13 - EPA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) is launching an evaluation of the agency's so-called Watch List, a management tool used by enforcement officials to identify facilities believed to have allegedly violated environmental laws.

http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/ig-launches-evaluation-of-epas-controversial-enf orcement-watch-list/menu-id-67.html

Inside EPA - States Vow Technical Assistance Focus For Newly Launched Air Group - 1/24/13 - A new group of 17 states has launched itself as an alternative to the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) due in part to disagreements with NACAA's positions on EPA rules. <a href="http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/states-vow-technical-assistance-focus-for-newly-launched-air-group/menu-id-67.html">http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/states-vow-technical-assistance-focus-for-newly-launched-air-group/menu-id-67.html</a>

Inside EPA - Natural Gas Infrastructure Firm Seeks End To EPA Auto Rule Fuel Mandate - 1/24/13 - A natural gas vehicle (NGV) infrastructure firm is urging EPA to revise its light duty vehicle greenhouse gas rule to eliminate a requirement for NGVs to use twice the amount of natural gas compared to gasoline in order to win credit under the rule.

http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/natural-gas-infrastructure-firm-seeks-end-to-epa-auto-rule-fuel-mandate/menu-id-67.html

Inside EPA - EPA Launches Talks On CWA Costs But City Officials Doubt Policy Overhaul - 1/24/13 - EPA is holding talks with mayors and other local government officials over how it determines whether cities can afford water infrastructure upgrades needed to comply with sewer overflows rules. <a href="http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/epa-launches-talks-on-cwa-costs-but-city-officials-doubt-policy-overhaul/menu-id-67.html">http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-01/25/2013/epa-launches-talks-on-cwa-costs-but-city-officials-doubt-policy-overhaul/menu-id-67.html</a>

## **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: http://go.usa.gov/Qx5

None

## **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets

None

# **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

\*1/28/13 – Meet with U.S. Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

1/29/13 - Visit the Training and Logistics Center, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

1/30/13 - Regional Tribal Operations Committee Quarterly Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

**2/4/13** - Iowa Department of Natural Resources/EPA Workplan Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact, Karen Flournoy, 7782

\*2/4-5/13 - Meet with Iowa Citizens for Community Involvement and the Iowa Environmental Council, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact Karen Flournoy, 7782 and Josh Svaty, 7202

**2/6/13 -** Meet and greet with Chairman Dennis Hedke, Kansas House Energy and Environment Committee, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199

2/6-8/13 - Strategic Planning Meeting, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**2/14/13 -** Meet and greet with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Col. Anthony Funkhouser, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

\*2/21/13 - Interagency Environmental Leadership Council Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

2/22/13 - Interview with Ken Root, WHO-TV, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**3/4-6/13** - Iowa State University Lecture Series - Guest Speaker, Ames, Iowa. Contacts: Josh Svaty, 7202 and Julia Cacho, 7071

**4/16/13** - Greater St. Louis Air & Waste Management Association meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

DRA:

**1/30/13 -** Regional Tribal Operations Committee Quarterly Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

**2/5/13** – Meet and greet with John Frece, Director, EPA Office of Sustainable Communities (OSC), Regional Office. Contact: David Doyle, 7667

**2/7/13 -** 12th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: David Doyle, 7667

**2/14/13 -** Meet and greet with U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Col. Anthony Funkhouser, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**2/19/13** - Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) presentation, Overland Park, Kan. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

\*4/15-17/13 - Attend Executive Management Council meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

### SA:

**ENSV** 

None

**PLMG** 

- \*1/29-30/13 Attend No-Till on the Plains Conference, Salina, Kan. Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202
- \* 2/4-5/13 Attend IDNR/EPA Workplan Meeting and Meet with Iowa Citizens for Community Involvement and the Iowa Environmental Council, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Josh Svaty, 7202

2/22/13 - Interview with Ken Root, WHO-TV, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**3/4-6/13** - Iowa State University Lecture Series - Guest Speaker, Ames, Iowa. Contacts: Josh Svaty, 7202 and Julia Cacho, 7071

# **RA/Immediate Office**

**1/30/13 -** Regional Tribal Operations Committee Quarterly Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

# Other Events AWMD None CNSL None ECO/J None

None

### RA/OPA

\* 1/28/13 – Meet with U.S. Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

### SUPR

None

# **WWPD**

**1/31/13** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee meeting at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency, Kansas City, Mo. Contacts: Mary Tietjen Mindrup, 7431; Stan Calow, 7410

**2/7/13** - Missouri Water Classification Workgroup Meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Bob Angelo, 7060

**2/7/13:** Development of Nebraska Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands meeting, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Eliodora Chamberlain, 7945

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